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investments depend on the strength of the business idea and the savvy of the entrepreneur, which is why they're helping states learn more how to encourage it. I am naive and I am susceptible to listening to the National Governors Association that venture capital is critical to growing the new businesses that will drive the new economy, finding ways to nurture the culture of entrepreneurs, and the capital that feeds them must be a top I don't know, myself, the personal priority of states. that and I, in fact, experience to contradict some...some deference that I pay groups like that. When I saw the list of the venture capital working group that the Governor put together, I know some of the names on this list. worked with some of these people. I don't know their business and I have some faith in them and I am, in fact, deferring to their thoughts. They do know more than I, and I may be naive, but I know some of the people on this list and I am, in fact, attending to their advice. I'm attending to the fact that other states are doing this to success. States around us are getting more venture capital and they are affirmatively attempting to get venture capital in their states. I have put them on your Whether it's Iowa and \$43 million that they've put together since 1990, when they began; or whether it's Oklahoma, which has \$10 million now that it's assisting in; whether those are private or public, they are in the business of using venture capital to bring business. So I am, in fact, as a naive person, following the phenomenon that many of the states in our area--Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, Oklahoma -- are doing something to encourage venture capital. am disheartened to learn that there's only \$6 million of venture capital investment in Nebraska in 1999 when there was four times that amount in Kansas, and \$1.3 billion Colorado, and I want us to do better. I think there are ideas here. I want growth. have adjusted as best I could to some of the arguments I've heard on the floor. I understand there's a desire for accountability. Senator Beutler serves on the Program Evaluation Committee, Pat Engel chairs that. At some point, to decide which of us is right, whether Senator prediction is accurate or whether my prediction is accurate, I would suggest that ...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.